

Newspapers and their influence.

We take the following excellent article from the *Coppy Hook*. Read it: We shall not attempt to define the exact influence of newspapers; but, most assuredly, it is extensive. A book lives longer than a newspaper, but a newspaper is constantly at work. The book circulates by thousands, and the newspaper by tens of thousands. The book is read by the few, the newspaper by the million. As a photograph impression of the lights and shadows of passing life, everybody takes an interest in a newspaper. It is a record of the daily history of our own time; it is, in fact, in our age, the history of telegraph communication, and that of the history of the world for each day. Its columns contain a transcript of the deaths, the marriages, the lawsuits, the complaints, the enthusiasms, the rejoicings, the sorrows and the wants of living men. How, then, can it fail to be generally interesting?

But the newspaper does more than this—it forms opinions, sometimes leading, sometimes following. It cannot go too far ahead, neither can it lag too far behind. It acts and is acted upon. Perhaps often an echo of what the majority of newspapers read and think, feel and desire, than anything else. This is indeed a necessity of a newspaper's existence. But it often leads opinion, too, by reiteration, by repetition, by line upon line, and by precept upon precept. As the water drop wears hollows, in the hardest stone, so does the newspaper mold and shape the local and political opinions of the community, and bring about important changes. It does not follow that these opinions are always valuable or excellent. The newspapers may form false views as well as true, may defend injustice, strengthen prejudice, and propagate error. The only corrective for all this is freedom. Said Milton in his plea for unlicensed printing: "Let truth and falsehood grapple; who ever saw truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter?"

The qualities of a successful editor, however, are of a much higher kind than Carlyle defines them to be. It is not mere "throttling straws without wheat" that is required of him. He must have ability, energy and tact. His illustrations and arguments must always be within call. The best newspaper writing is only brilliant talking; but what a rare gift is that! Let any person who thinks it easy to write a newspaper article, try it. But one article, or even a dozen, will be no test of success. An editor must be able, like the celebrated French cook of the play, to prepare twelve courses of food, and to find from one square lump of coal. He must be able to write a newspaper article, never flagging or dull for a moment. He must mingle the grave with the gay, the lively with the severe, the fact with comment, speculation with experience. He must have versatile taste, a well stored memory, a light and playful imagination, a logical mind and an unswerving judgment. If any one thinks it is an easy task to edit a newspaper, year after year, let him try it.

Fire in Nicholasville.

The frame house occupied by Mrs. Clemens, a widow lady, situated on Main adjoining the Carson House, was entirely consumed by fire on Monday morning last. The Carson House was in great danger of being destroyed, and was only saved through the persistent efforts of the citizens. We learn that Mrs. Clemens had about \$700 insurance on the house, and together with some kind hearted people of the town, fully recovered their loss. If there had been a strong North wind blowing, the probabilities are, that the better portion of the town would have been destroyed, as it is entirely without a fire department, and would have been at the mercy of the fire fiend.

Law Governing Public Sales.

It is not generally known that when real estate is sold at auction, if the terms of the sale are written out and the names of the successful bidder are inserted and signed by the auctioneer, that such bidder is bound in law, and the contract of purchase can be forced against him. This procedure takes it out of the statute of frauds and perjuries, for the auctioneer is the authorized agent of the bidder. An auctioneer should always sign the sale-book of any sale, and then it can be used in evidence against the bidder. According to this auctioneer will save a good deal of trouble.

Important Label Suit.

A telegram from Chicago, of March the 2nd, announces that "Rev. Stuart Robinson" of Louisville, has entered suit for libel against the proprietor of the *Chicago Evening Post*, in which he says his damages at one hundred thousand dollars. The *Post*, not long since, stated that the plaintiff, while addressing his congregation, advised them to ship clothing infected with yellow fever to prominent Northern cities, and the reverend gentleman declares that he never said anything of the sort, and now sues for the same name.

A NUMBER of newspapers are boasting of the confidence placed in them by their subscribers. An Illinois weekly has received an order to "send the paper until these five dollars are exhausted." The *Cincinnati Commercial* brags of a subscriber who wants its weekly to the extent of twelve dollars. A California man sent on five dollars for the weekly *Courier* (22 per annum) recently, saying that he hadn't the change, and that he'd be obliged if the mail-clerk would put him down for a year and send the change by return mail.—*Courier-Journal*.

A Tennessee man ordered the *INTERIOR JOURNAL* for one year, enclosing a sample of hair, saying he would "pay for it when he sold his dog."

A CERTAIN brand of Cincinnati whiskey is warranted to contain 437 fights to the barrel.

A Story of Stories.

Some ingenious admirer of Dickens produces the following, which seems to contain the names of all the works of the great novelist.

"Oliver Twist" had some very "Hard Times" in the "Battle of Life," and having been saved from the "Wreck of the Golden Mary" by our "Mutual Friend," "Nicholas Nickleby," had just finished reading a "Tale of Two Cities" to "Martin Chuzzlewit," during which time "The Cricket on the Hearth" had been chirping right merrily, while "The Chimes" from the adjacent churches were heard, when "Seven Poor Travelers" commenced singing a "Christmas Carol." "Barnaby Rudge" then arrived from "Old Curiosity Shop" with some "Pictures from Italy," and "Sketches by Boz," to show "Little Dorrit," who was busy with "Pickwick Papers," when "David Copperfield," who had been taking "American Notes," entered, and informed the company that the "Great Expectations" of "Dombey & Son," regarding "Mrs. Lirriper's Legacy," had not been realized, and that he had seen "Boots at the Holly Tree Inn" taking "Somebody's Luggage" to "Mrs. Lirriper's Lodgings," in a street that had "No Thoroughfare," opposite "Bleak House," where the "Haunted Man," who had just given one of "Dr. Marjold's Prescriptions" to an "Uncommercial Traveler," has brooding over the "Mystery of Edwin Drood."

Cheerfulness and Moroseness.

If we are cheerful and contented, all nature smiles with us; their seems more balmy, the sky more clear, the ground has brighter green, the trees have a richer foliage, the flowers a more fragrant smell, the birds sing more sweetly, and the sun, moon and stars all appear most beautiful. We take our food with relish, and what ever it may be, it pleases us. We feel better for it—stronger and livelier, and fit for exertion. Now what happens when we are ill-tempered and discontented? Why, there is not anything which can please us. We quarrel with our food, with our dress, with our amusements, with our companions, and with ourselves. Nothing comes right for us; the weather is either too hot or too cold, too dry or too damp. Neither sun nor moon, nor stars have any beauty; the fields are barren, the flowers are lustreless, and the birds silent. We move about like some evil spirit, neither loving nor beloved by anything.

Lost or Stolen.

Lost or stolen through the agency of villains, in the disguise of friends. The undersigned has lost within the last five years the following items of property, namely:

An unnumbered estate, A vigorous constitution; A fair moral character; A good standing in society; An active, healthful conscience.

Also, at the same time, or soon after, the affections of a wife, of children and friends.

The miscreants who have thus robbed me are the members of one family. Their names are Rum, Gin, Brandy, Wine and Ale. Another base fellow, a recent emigrant from Germany, named Lager, it is supposed had a hand in the robbery, as he is much in company with the above named brotherhood of thieves and seems to be of kindred character. The villains are still lurking about this town and vicinity, and frequently to be seen at the homes and around the firesides of families of the highest respectability. Whoever will apprehend them and bring them to justice, shall receive the thanks of the undersigned, and have administered to him a cup of cold water.

A DRUNKARD.

An old gentleman with several suspicious red spots on his face, entered a street car a few days since, and quietly took the only seat which was vacant. An inquisitive chap asked him if he had the small pox, and he said "yes." There was a general scramble among the passengers, all of whom wanted to get out right there, and in about a minute the old gentleman had the car to himself. The conductor, very cautiously peeping in, demanded how long it was since the afflicted individual had recovered. "Well, sir," replied the victim of the disease, "I cannot say exactly, but, as near as I can recollect, it was about thirty-five years ago."

AMONG JANAUSCHEK'S jewels is a diamond ring valued at \$18,000; a diamond cross with chain \$15,000 presented by the Emperor of Russia; diamond earrings from the King of Holland, \$2,200; rubies and pearls from the Queen of Wurtemberg, \$7,000; locket set with diamonds, very valuable; bracelet from the King of Bavaria, set with five diamonds, \$10,000; diamond cross from an American gentleman, \$8,000; emeralds from the King of Greece; carbuncle, diamonds, earrings and locket, from a Turkish minister.

THE great whisky hubb kicked up in Louisville over a large purchase of whisky by some speculators is only an advertising dodge. As for their having all the old whisky in the country, it is simply absurd. Our friends Hutcheson, McCoskey & Co., of this city have older whisky, better whisky, and almost if not quite as much as that which these speculators are fussing about.—*Kentucky Gazette*.

A DISTINGUISHED seer states, as if it were something to wonder at, that a woman's voice may be heard at an altitude of two miles from the earth, while that of a man never reaches above a mile. Surely it is not necessary to go up in a balloon to find out that women pitch their voices higher than men.

Trust not the whiteness of his turban who bought the soap on credit.

Victimized.

Judge Ballard's negro court in Louisville has rendered judgment against the Trustees of Harrodsburg in favor of Ed. Johnson, judgment amounting to \$450. The town having no money on hand the Trustees satisfied the execution out of their own pockets. Now this claim as we are informed by Town Attorney Spillman, was fraudulent from beginning to the end and was sustained by wholesale perjury. Moreover, the proof in favor of the town was so clear that it is incomprehensible how Ballard could have so decided except upon the ground that white men have, as against negroes, no rights which U. S. courts are bound to respect. These U. S. courts are peculiar institutions when their friends are interested. The other day, in Jackson Miss., a U. S. Marshall, so arrant a rascal as goes untried, was convicted on four indictments of embezzling public money. Judge Hill, one of these detestable judges of the Ballard stripe, sentenced the scoundrel to jail for the term of six months for each conviction (the lowest term allowed by the law) and ordered all the terms to begin at the same time. There's law for you.—*Harrodsburg People*.

Our Idle Recollections.

An English writer writes: "I can assure you that, having lived in different countries and among the great of Great Britain, and been accustomed to the industrious habits of Dutchmen and the frugalities of the Scotch, I was utterly astonished at the idleness of our ladies. No Englishwoman of rank (with the exception of a few parvenues) from the Queen downward, would remain for one half-hour unemployed, or sit in a rocking-chair unless seriously ill. They almost all (with hardly an exception) copy the letters of business of their husbands, fathers, or brothers; attend minutely to the wants of the poor around them, and even take part in their amusements, and sympathize with their sorrows; visit and superintend the schools; work in their own gardens; see to their household concerns; think about their visitors; look over their weekly accounts, not only their domestic expense, but even those of the farm and the estate; manage penny clubs in conjunction with the working classes, to help them to keep themselves, and with all these occupations, in early hours, they keep up their acquaintance with the literature and politics of the day, and cultivate the accomplishments of music and drawing, and often acquire, besides, some knowledge of scientific pursuits."

THE Chicago Times, the leading Democratic journal in the Northwest, speaks thus of the nomination of Judge Davis:

The nomination is one of many evidences that are observable of a spontaneous feeling throughout the country, in favor of some eminent citizen, and his elevation to the Presidency by the co-operating support of all the people who would guard the country against another term of calumnious corruption and misrule. The labor reformers have suggested, in the person of Judge Davis, such a candidate, a gentleman possessing the talents, acquisitions and personal character to restore that dignity to the office of Chief Magistrate, the loss of which has been a national humiliation, and one who is peculiarly fitted to unite the strength of all parties, and of all the people without respect to parties, who are opposed to the Administration. They are to be congratulated upon their excellent and most judicious selection, and especially upon having placed themselves in a position where, in advancing their own cause, they may also advance a cause that is common to all patriotic and right-minded citizens of the Republic.

Evenings at Home.

THESE are the most useful, and so-called school of virtue and moral worth, like a good home. And the good home is not merely that which furnishes edible dinners and well-kept rooms and clean beds, but that furnishes most satisfaction, refreshing and joy to all its inmates. And evening is the only time when all the members of the family circle meet together, and can mingle in happy and joyous intercourse. The evening should be provided for as it usually is not. Our home keepers should take the hint from those who furnish public entertainments, and lavish thought and ingenuity enough upon the occasion to make so attractive and delightful and satisfying that every member of the household will feel the happier for it, and look forward to its return with expectancy, and beyond the ten thousand temptations to spend the evening hours elsewhere.

Something Worth Remembering.

The London *Lancet*, excellent authority gives the following recipe for the cure of pure dandruff: As soon as the disease is felt, put directly over the spot a fly blister about the size of your thumb nail, and let it remain for six hours, at the expiration of which time, directly under the surface of the blister may be seen the follicles, which can be instantly taken out with the point of needle or a lancet.

A RECENT letter from Toronto, Canada, says that, should England, in case of a war with the United States, leave Canada to her own resources, the Canadians would make no resistance to the American army, for the obvious reason that they feel themselves unequal to the task. In the contingency of hostilities, the pacific sentiment of our neighbors of the Dominion will be hailed with gratitude by our Fenian friends, who, in their purpose of liberating Ireland, would be delighted with an opportunity to walk over the heads of their hindrance, and make themselves at home in Toronto, Montreal, and Quebec.

A FATHER was one evening teaching his little boy to recite his Sunday school lesson. It was from the fourteenth chapter of Mark where he related the parable of the malicious individual, who went about sowing tares. "What is a tare?" "Tell me, my boy, what a tare is?" asked the anxious parent. "You had em," "Johnny, what do you mean?" asked the father, opening his eyes rather wide. "Why, last week, when you didn't come home for three days," said Johnny, "I heard mother tell Aunt Susan that you was on a tare."

A NEW method of thievery has made its appearance in Pittsburgh. The perpetrator attends some church and sits by the door. When the collection plate is handed him he grabs the contents and disappears at full speed. Caught by experience, the church sends two donors with each plate now-a-days, and, as police duty has become one of the dearest follies, the advocates of muscular Christianity expect to carry everything before them at the next election.

A SHORT time before the revolution of the 4th of September, a deputy ass. M. Thien applied his tongue to a postage stamp bearing Napoleon III's image. The deputy exclaimed: "I have caught you in the act." M. Thien asked, "Of doing what?" The deputy answered, "Of kissing the tyrant." M. Thien rejoined, "My dear fellow, you are mistaken; I was taking the stiffening out of him."

THE Legislature of Wisconsin has enacted a law making all days of election legal holidays. It is thought this measure will induce business men to take a more general interest in politics, or at least record their votes.

How to Speak to Children.

It is usual to attempt the management of children either by corporal punishment, or by rewards addressed to the senses, and by words alone. There is one other means of government, the power and importance of which are seldom regarded—I refer to the human voice. A blow may be inflicted on a child, accompanied with words so uttered as to counteract entirely its intended effect; or the parent may use language quite unobjectionable in itself, yet spoken in a tone which, more than defeats its influence. What is it which fills the infant to resist? It is an aura of mere words. There is no charm to the untaught one, in letters, syllables and sentences. It is the sound which strikes its little ear that soothes and composes it to sleep. A few notes, however unskillfully arranged, if uttered in a soft tone, are found to possess a magic influence. Think we that this influence is confined to the cradle? No; it is diffused over age, and ceases not while the child remains under the parental roof. Is the boy growing rude in manner, and boisterous in speech? I know no instrument so sure to control these tendencies as the gentle tones of a mother. She who speaks to her son harshly does but give to his conduct the sanction of her own example. She pours oil on the already raging flame. In the presence of duty we are liable to utter ourselves harshly to children. Perhaps a threat is expressed in a loud and irritating tone; instead of allaying the passions of the child, it serves directly to increase them. Every fretful expression awakens in him the spirit which produced it. So does a pleasant voice call up agreeable feelings. Whatever disposition, therefore, we would encourage in a child, the same we should manifest in the tone in which we address it.—*Exchange*.

Burning Chimneys.

If it is desired to extinguish the fire in a chimney which has been lighted by a fire in the fireplace, shut all the doors of the apartment, so as to prevent any current of air going up the chimney, and throw a few handfuls of common salt upon the fire, which will immediately extinguish the same. The philosophy of this is, that in the process of burning salt, muriatic acid is evolved, which is a prompt extinguisher of fire.

THERE is nothing on earth worthy of being compared for a moment with love. No other thing that can give by itself unalloyed happiness. A loveless life is worthless, though passed in luxury, and crowned with the proudest laurels of successful ambition. A life well spent with love is blessed, though haunted by that relentless fate which seems to deny to some men and women what the world calls success.

A SOUTHERN paper advertises as follows: "Wanted, at this office, an able-bodied, hard featured, had temper, not-to-be-puffed-up, not-to-be-kept-down, free-headed young man to collect for this paper; must furnish his own horse, saddle-bags, pistols, whisky, bowie-knife and cowhide. We will furnish the accounts. To such we promise constant and laborious employment."

TAKE good care of your teeth or your cheeks will sink in, your lips lose their freshness, the chin will be lengthened, wrinkles will cover your face as so many furrows, pronunciation will be difficult and unpleasant, the saliva, having no more dykes to contain it, will escape, and produce that unpleasantness which we only endure in old age.

The pruning of the grapevine should be attended to immediately. Care and judgment are requisite in order to do this properly. The rule is, to shorten in the new wood in proportion to quantity of the roots. This can be pretty accurately determined by the last season's growth.

A DANDY who wanted the milk passed to him at a country inn, thus asked for it: "Landlady, please pass your cow this way. To whom the landlady retorted: "Waiter, take the cow down to where the calf is bleating."

STOKES of Tennessee got off with a paltry fine of \$10,500 and cost. The fee he got for putting the frauds through was \$10,000. The case is regarded in Washington as one of the most corrupt ever shown up there.

NERVOUS headache is said to be instantly relieved by shampooing the head with a quart of cold water, in which a desert spoonful of soda has been dissolved.

BIOGRAPHY is useless which is not true. The weakness of character must be preserved, however insignificant or humbling; they are the errata of genius, and clear up the text.

A MUSIC dealer in an eastern town announces in his window a sentimental song, "Thou Hast Loved Me and Left Me for Twenty-five Cents."

It is not until we have passed through the furnace that we are made to know how much dross was in our composition. We mount to heaven mostly on the ruins of our cherished schemes, finding our failures were successes.

REPENTANCE without amendments is like continual pumping in a ship without stopping the leaks.

THE Kansas House of Representatives has passed bill abolishing capital punishment.

POLITENESS is like an air-cushion chair—there may be nothing in it, but it eases our jolts wonderfully.

A knowledge of our weakness creates in us charity for others.

Agricultural Department.

Turnips for Hith Cows.

In a grass region like Central Kentucky, where all kinds of grasses do well—clover, timothy, red-top, orchard and Hungarian grass, and the world-wide celebrated *Poa pratensis* (Kentucky blue grass)—the cultivation of root crops is very much neglected as a feed for stock, especially milk cows. I wrote a full account of the culture, feeding, &c., of root crops, some months since, which I sent for publication to the Cincinnati Times and Chronicle; but never having seen it therein, I presume the article was overlooked and never published. In the summer of 1870, (July 10,) I sowed an acre of summer and winter turnip seed (principally the sweet kind) in a young vineyard, where the ground was in fine tilth for the reception of small seed. The result was a large yield of excellent, large roots, which I gathered during the season and fed to my milk cows. The flow of milk was greatly increased, and I made more and better butter than I had ever made from grass alone. I fed a quart of wheat bran to each cow, night and morning. At the close of the season I gathered the roots and buried them in the open ground, and fed them about a peck per day (each cow) until New Year, when the roots gave out; and since then I have discovered a perceptible diminution in the flow of milk.

I would not advise a too sudden change of feed from anything else to roots; but a gradual change can be made, and but little, if any, taste of the turnips can be perceived. From my experience in feeding milk cows, my decided preference is for turnips and clover hay, mixed with wheat bran. If these articles are properly used, the flow of milk and yield of butter will be all that any one could desire. Every one who feeds cows and can raise turnips, should never fail to put in a sufficiency for the purpose. Cows will eat them as readily as corn, feed raw they are nearly as good as to feed them cooked. I believe they like them better when not cooked. In sowing turnips, it is well to sow early in the spring from the fact that it often happens that drouth, the fly and other causes often destroy the seed or young plants, and then one has time to sow, and a failure is often averted. A good crop of turnips will save many bushels of corn and many pounds of hay and other feed, besides producing more milk and butter. If more roots were raised, the farmer would find his "balance sheet" in his favor greater than the man who does not find time to cultivate them.—*Country Gentleman*.

How Soil was Made.

Professor Agassiz says that all the materials on which agricultural processes depend are decomposed rocks—not so much rocks that underlie the soil, but those on the surface that are brought from considerable distance, and ground to powder by the rasp of the glacier. Ice all over the continent is the agent that has ground out more soil than all other agencies put together. The penetration of water into rocks, frost, running water, and baking sun have done something, but the glacier more. In the former age, the whole United States was covered with ice several thousand feet thick, and this ice moving from north to south by the attraction of tropical warmth or pressing weight of ice and snow behind ground the rock over which it passed into the paste we call the soil. These masses can be tracked as surely as game by the hunter. He has made a study of them in this country as far as Alabama, but he had observed the same phenomena, particularly in Italy, where among the Alps, the glaciers are in progress. The stones and rocks ground and polished by the glaciers can be easily distinguished from those scratched by the running water. The angular boulders found in meadows and the terraces of our rivers not reached by water, can only be accounted for in this way.

Potatoes on Sod Land.

In addition to the reply to J. E. S., p. 56, I take the liberty to say that I have frequently planted potatoes under inverted sod and with the same success as by the ordinary process. Previous to plowing and planting, the land ought to have a dressing from the barn-yard manure or its mercurial mixtures. A mixture of ashes and superphosphates is very suitable. The quantity per acre I presume J. E. S. understands. My practice is to run a two-horse sod plow, followed by a subsoil plow, the sod plow running about eight inches deep and the subsoil elevated four inches, thus placing the sets four inches below the surface and planted in every third plowed furrow. If it is desirable to economize manure, manure only in the drills and at the same time the sets are planted. If the plowing is not done on either side of the lot it will be necessary to return empty. Lastly pass a heavy roller.—*Country Gentleman*.

Curious Effects of Colic.

Colic is curious in its effects. There are few ills that befall us more suddenly and surely rid of all vanity and fastidiousness and false notions. A man with colic will forget all his ambitions for wealth and fame, for appearance and eclat; he will forget the strife with his neighbors, in which he has sworn to conquer, or he will think of it only to wish it had never begun; he will forget that he lives in any better house than his hired workman, his fast horses will vanish from his mind and he will think only of the things really useful for happiness, rest, peace, and a few small comforts of life, and a blessed immunity from colic. Before colic makes all feeling of caste, personal superiority, and strife, verify the democracy of the grave or a straiter is not more notable and complete than the democracy of colic.—*Physician*.

An Important Fact in Grape Culture.

Here we would mention a fact which has come within our observation and experience, which, if generally true, is of some importance. It is this: That the third fruit bud from the base of the past year's cane throws out larger and better developed bunches of grapes than either the first or second. The grapes from these buds seem also better flavored, and generally superior to those on the first and second. In accordance with this hint we have adopted the plan of cutting the cane at such length as to leave the third bud, generally, and sometimes the fourth, when a good strong one, and then rubbing off the first and second buds, and leaving the third and fourth for fruit. The number of fruit buds left on the vine must depend on the age and strength of the vine. If the vines are strong and vigorous, at three years, from two to three bunches of grapes may be allowed to mature on each, without injury.—*Pacific Rural Press*.

Soap for Boreers.

The Prairie Farmer says that in order to make the application of soap to the trunks of apple trees entirely effectual for the exclusion of the borer, it is necessary to take very thick soft soap, without diluting, heat it to the boiling point, and then paint the trees freely with it, especially near the ground, and thence up some distance among the branches. It strikes into the bark when thus put on hot, so that one application about the first of June protects the trees for the season, killing the young borers or eggs which happened to be at the surface of the bark. We have never tried this mode, but have used the old one of rubbing with cold soft soap, which always proved useful, but never entirely effectual; and it was always necessary, in order to effect complete extermination, to go over the trees once or twice a year with the knife and flexible wire. Our readers will of course understand that the soap has no effect on borers already in the wood.

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